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Subject: 9-13-10 Mosquito spraying set for Tuesday
Attachments: 9-14-10 Smith Street spray map.pdf; 9-14-10 Park Avenue spray map.pdf; 9-14-10 Indiana Street spray map.pdf

Fort Wayne-AlLEN County Department of Health

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NEWS RELEASE

Contact: John Silcox, 260-449-7395, john.silcox@co.allen.in.us

For Immediate Release

Mosquito spraying set for Tuesday

Second West Nile virus human case reported in Allen County

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (Sept. 13, 2010) – The Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health plans to spray for mosquitoes in several locations on Tuesday night.

Vector control crews will spray in a half-mile radius of the **5600 block of Smith Street** and the **1400 block of Park Avenue** in Wayne Township, as a result of ongoing West Nile virus activity in those areas. The department will also spray around the **13600 block of Indiana Street** in Grabill after mosquitoes carrying West Nile virus were detected in the area.

Maps of the proposed spray areas are included with this release and available on the department's Web site at www.allencountyhealth.com. Spraying will begin at approximately 8 p.m. Tuesday, weather permitting. Spraying will not occur when the temperature is below 55 °F, wind speeds exceed 10 mph or it is raining.

Mosquitoes can carry diseases such as West Nile virus which, when transmitted to humans, can cause symptoms such as fever, headaches, body aches, swollen lymph glands or a rash. A more severe form of the disease can lead to neurological disorders, coma and even death.

The health department's mosquito control program focuses on eliminating potential breeding sites, larviciding to reduce the mosquito population, and placing traps to collect and test mosquitoes for disease. Spraying for adult mosquitoes, also known as adulticiding, is only performed when samples test positive for the West Nile virus.

While the pesticide used for mosquito control is an EPA-approved, low-volume concentration that is considered safe for humans and pets, it is suggested that residents remain indoors, bring pets inside, and close windows and doors while spraying is occurring.

So far in 2010, 280 mosquito samples have been tested in Allen County and 48 have been positive for West Nile virus. There has been two probable human case reported in Allen County.

For more information or to sign up to receive mosquito spraying alerts, visit www.allencountyhealth.com.

West Nile Virus prevention measures

- **Check your property for breeding sites.** Eliminate any sources of standing water. Clean out gutters and birdbaths. Properly dispose of tires. Maintain swimming pools and hot tubs.
- **Limit time spent outdoors** during peak mosquito biting times.
- **Wear loose, light-colored clothing**, pants and long sleeve shirts.
- **Apply an insect repellent** that contains DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535 to clothing and exposed skin.

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Thanks,

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Official up-to-the-minute public health information – register to receive
by email and cell phone at www.nixle.com

